

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Ethiopia/Kenya/Czechoslovakia

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

1. Jan Yabronec Lnenicka, representative of the timber, match, glass, and crockery industries in the Czech Trade Mission to Ethiopia, traveled to Nairobi, Kenya, from Addis Ababa toward the end of December 1948*. According to source, Lnenicka is a director of a nationalized firm of artificial jewelry manufacturers, F. Marks & Syn., Jablonec nad Nisou, Czechoslovakia. He is described by source as an ardent supporter of the present government in Czechoslovakia, although source thinks that Lnenicka's opportunistic nature would lead him to support any regime that contributed to his personal gain. Source states that Lnenicka presently is receiving a high salary.
2. While they were in Addis Ababa, Lnenicka and Bedrich Schneider, a member of the Czech Trade Mission representing the steel industry, had requested visas for East Africa and the Union of South Africa. However, Schneider was refused a visa for East Africa, and both Lnenicka and Schneider were refused visas for the Union of South Africa. Source states that Lnenicka planned to go to Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, in the attempt to secure a South African visa through the efforts of certain influential firms with which he has contact there.
3. Lnenicka was met at Nairobi by V. Baderle, a director of the Omni-Africa Trading Co., Ltd.,** Nairobi, in the absence of Berge (fnu), another director, who had been asked to meet him. Lnenicka did not contact the representative of Bat'a Co.*** in Nairobi and stated that contact with this firm was not encouraged by the Czechoslovak Government. He has named the Omni-Africa Trading Co. as his agent in Kenya.
4. During his stay in Nairobi Lnenicka stated that the Czech Trade Mission had sold large quantities of sugar and cement in Ethiopia.****
5. The Mission offered cement at £8.10.0, f.o.b. Belgian or Dutch ports, but did not succeed in making a sale.*****

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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25X1A6a * ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. A reliable neutral source states that Lnenicka was in Nairobi from 19-21 December.

25X1A6a ** ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. This firm is possibly a local branch of Omnipol, a Czech trading organization.

25X1A6a *** ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. This company is presumably a branch of the British Bat'a Co., rather than the Czech firm of that name.

25X1A6a **** ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. The Czech Trade Mission sold 1,200 tons of sugar to the firms of Premjee and A. Besse & Co., 150 tons to Kalogeropolis & Co. in Addis Ababa, and 200 tons in Djibouti. These shipments were due to arrive in February 1949.

25X1A6a ***** ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. The Ethiopian Ministry of Commerce has received, through the Ethiopian Legation in Cairo, an offer of cement from the Commercial Attache of the Yugoslav Legation in Cairo. The price quoted was £7.14.0 per ton, in 50 kilogram sacks, c.i.f. Djibouti. Freight and handling charges to Addis Ababa amount to approximately \$E60.00 per ton and the duty is \$E7.00 per ton. Thus, the price of this cement to an importer in Addis Ababa would be about \$E144.00 per ton. The price in Addis Ababa of cement produced in Dire-dawa is \$E175.00 per ton. F-3 (The approximate rate of exchange is £1.0.0 = \$E10.00.)

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